

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment. Claims 1-22 have been canceled and replaced with claims 23-46 in order to comply with U.S. rules and practice for multiple dependent claims, wherein multiply dependent claim (see for example original claim 4) may not depend from another multiply dependent claim (see original claim 3). The new claims do not narrow the claimed subject matter presented and examined in the corresponding International Application.

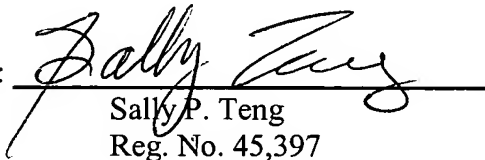
CONCLUSION

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, and including any required extension of time fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTION PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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